

Haliotis pourtalesii DALL, 1881 from Florida Waters

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(Plate 18)

THE RARE ABALONE, *Haliotis pourtalesii* DALL, 1881, previously has been collected in the Gulf of Mexico on the steep continental slope bordering the Yucatan and Florida Straits (FOSTER, 1946; HARRY, 1966). Also, PARKER (1960) illustrated a fragmented shell of *H. pourtalesii* taken from a calcareous bank in the northwestern Gulf.

On April 21, 1967, personnel of the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bureau of Commercial Fisheries dredged a specimen from 45 fathoms on the continental shelf of Florida at Latitude 24°56.8' N, Longitude 83°40' W. The specimen was taken about 100 nautical miles west-northwest of the location reported by FOSTER (1946) and 20 fathoms shallower than any previous record. Although about 200 bottom grabs were taken along 8 transects from 5 to 1 800 fathoms between St. Petersburg and Key West, Florida, *Haliotis pourtalesii* occurred in only one sample.

The specimen is illustrated in Plate 18. Shell dimensions are: Height, 8 mm; maximum diameter, 30 mm; and minimum diameter, 21 mm. There are 28 pore tubercles, 6 of which are open. The color of the shell is

brick red, with irregular splotches of tan scattered between the line of pores and the columellar border. The apex has a well-defined protoconch, pore tubercles, spiral and shoulder threads.

The specimen is deposited in the museum of the Bureau of Commercial Fisheries Biological Laboratory, Galveston, Texas. Identification was verified by Dr. Harold Harry, Texas A&M University.

LITERATURE CITED

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1960. Ecology and distributional patterns of marine macro-invertebrates, northern Gulf of Mexico. In: Recent sediments, northwestern Gulf of Mexico, ed. F. R. SHEPARD, F. B. PHLEGER & T. H. VAN ANDEL, pp. 302 - 337. Amer. Assoc. Petrol. Geol., Tulsa, Oklahoma

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Explanation of Plate 18

Dorsal View of *Haliotis pourtalesii* DALL, 1881

